United Nations E/C.19/2004/3

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
17 February 2004

Original: English

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Third session
New York, 10-21 May 2004
Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to transmit the report of the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society, which was held in Geneva from 8 to 11 December 2003.

* E/C.19/2004/1.

04-24180 (E) 170304

Report of the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society

Geneva, 8-11 December 2003

Summary

At its second session, in May 2003, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommended that a world conference on indigenous peoples in the information society be organized on the occasion of the World Summit on the Information Society. The Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society was one of the largest official parallel events of the Summit. It was attended by representatives of six United Nations Member States (a total of 18 government departments), eight United Nations system entities and other intergovernmental bodies, 12 private-sector participants and 90 indigenous and non-governmental organizations. A total of 286 persons attended the Global Forum, which examined both potentials and obstacles to the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the information society. Obstacles included (but were not limited to) lack of basic community infrastructure, limited access to modern technologies and the urgent need for gender and age-sensitive capacity-building. Potentials included (but were not limited to) access to new marketplaces, increased indigenous networking (both regionally and internationally), new strategies to revitalize and pass on culture and languages, and the opportunity to fully participate in the new information and connectivity revolution facing humanity.

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PART A

INTRODUCTION

1. At its second session in May 2003, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommended in paragraph 40 of its report that a world conference on indigenous peoples in the information society be organized on the occasion of the World Summit on the Information Society (10-12 December 2003).

2. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues facilitated the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society, as an official event of the World Summit on the Information Society.

3. The organization of the Global Forum was facilitated by the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Aboriginal Canada Portal and the secretariat of the World Summit on the Information Society with the assistance of the Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information (DOCIP).

4. Part B of this report contains the declaration and programme of action adopted by the Global Forum. A summary narrative of the discussions held during the Global Forum prepared by DOCIP appears on the website of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, at www.un.org/esa/socdev/pfii.

I ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Attendance

5. The Global Forum was attended by seven members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, representatives of six Member States (a total of 18 government departments), eight United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organizations, 12 private sector participants and 90 indigenous and non-governmental organizations. A total of 286 persons attended the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society. The list of participating States and organizations is contained in annex IV.

Documentation

6. The list of pre-session documents appears in annex III.

Opening of the Forum

7. At the opening ceremony of the Global Forum, participants were welcomed by H.E. Mr. Robert Hensler, Chancellor of State for the Republic and Canton of Geneva; H.E. Mr. Laurent Walpen, Special Assistant of the Chancellor, H.E. Mr. Christian Ferrazino, Mayor of the City of Geneva; Mr. Ole Henrik Magga, Chairperson of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; Mr. Alain Clerc, Director of the Division for Civil Society of the World Summit on the Information Society, and Ms. Meliea Sui Lin Nobreya

(Indigenous Youth Representative from Hawaii). Cultural Performers included Mr. Robert Borrero (representative of the indigenous Taino people of Puerto Rico) as the Master of Ceremonies, the Samoan Dance Troupe (supported by the Samoan Government), and Mr. Cameron McCarthy (representative of theYalanji people, Aboriginal people of Australia).

Election of officers

8. The Bureau of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues acted as the Bureau of the Global Forum and Mr. Ole Henrik Magga was the Chairperson of the Global Forum. The other members of the Bureau were Mr. Antonio Jacanamijoy Tisoy, Mr. Wilton Littlechild, Mr. Parshuram Tamang, and Ms. Mililani Trask (as Vice-Chairpersons). Ms. Njuma Ekundanayo, one of the Permanent Forum Bureau members was unable to attend. Permanent Forum Member, Mr. Ayitegan Kouevi agreed to assist the Bureau.

Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

9. At its first meeting, the Global Forum adopted its agenda (see annex I) and programme of work (see annex II) at the opening plenary, 8 December 2003.

10. At the opening plenary of the Global Forum, an open-ended Drafting Committee was established, which was facilitated by two indigenous co-conveners, Ms. Ivy Nomolungelo Goduka and Mr. Jose Carlos Morales. The Drafting Committee prepared the outcome documents, which were subsequently discussed and adopted by the Global Forum at the final plenary on 11 December 2003.

Adoption of the report

11. On 11 December, the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society adopted a declaration and a programme of action. These documents appear in part B of this report.

Closure of the Forum

12. On 11 December 2003, the Global Forum adopted the Declaration and Programme of Action of the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society. At the request of participants of the Latin American Indigenous Caucus, the Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America to the World Summit on the Information Society appears as annex V.

13. A cultural event, featuring cultural performers from Australia, Puerto Rico, Samoa and the Russian Federation closed the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society.

PART B

DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE GLOBAL FORUM OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

The Geneva Declaration

Introduction

1. We, representatives of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes of the world, assembled in Geneva from 8-11 December 2003 for the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society. The Global Forum is an official meeting for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society and is facilitated by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

2. As the representatives of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, and recognizing the full diversity of Indigenous peoples, who live in both, urban, rural and remote settings, we declare the following fundamental principles for building the information society that is inclusive of our cultural diversity and indigenous information communications styles and respects our rights in forming partnerships in action. All the following statements apply to Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, our Elders, women, men, youth and children, in order that States abide by and respect them.

3. The Information Society is the result of a global revolution in the fields of economics, technology and social development. Its primary aspects are knowledge, information, communication and access to services and products. These elements of the Information Society, by their very nature are reflective of the political and economic status of the dominant society. This global revolution has had and continues to have a profound and deep impact on the cultures and communities of the world's Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, most of whom continue to live in extreme poverty without basic provision for food, water, shelter, electricity and other basic infrastructure.

4. At the heart of our vision of the Information Society is respect for the dignity and human rights of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, which must be affirmed, if the economic, information and digital divide which separates technology rich nations and the private sector from the most marginalized peoples in society, including Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, is to be bridged.

5. In this context, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) should be used to support and encourage cultural diversity and to preserve and promote indigenous languages, distinct identities and traditional knowledge of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes in a manner which they determine best advances these goals. The evolution

of information and communication societies must be founded on the respect and promotion of the rights of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes and our distinctive and diverse cultures, as outlined in international conventions. We have fundamental and collective rights to protect, preserve and strengthen our own languages, cultures and identities.

6. The prerequisite for the inclusion of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes in the Information Society is the provision of adequate infrastructure in States for tele-communications, radio, television, the internet and ICT providers, with the free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes concerned. This requires access to basic community infrastructure such as electricity and energy sources. It is the desire of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes that the provision of infrastructure and energy be achieved in sustainable ways and the use of alternative technologies be investigated to ensure the environment is protected. States should take immediate action to address the needs of all Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes in their countries and should support developing nations and countries in transition, in their effort to provide ICT infrastructure.

7. Some Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes have made strides in bridging the information divide with the assistance of States and private sector support and financial subsidies. Our achievements demonstrate that equitable partnerships between Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes and others can be attained. These indigenous approaches and programs are resources, which can be transmitted to others through indigenous to indigenous training projects in order to meet the need of the vast majority of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, who have a critical need for culturally appropriate capacity building programmes. Capacity building programmes should begin at the grassroots level and should ensure gender equity.

Human Rights

8. We declare that our participation in building and implementing the information society must be based on our right to self-determination, and honour and respect of the spirit and intent of treaties. Towards this end, we ask that States consider the rapid adoption of the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which we regard as minimal standards for the achievement of equity and social justice.

9. We declare that the protection and preservation of our indigenous languages and development of our traditional knowledge cannot be separated from our right to maintain and strengthen our distinctive spiritual and material relationship with our lands, territories, resources, air, inland waters and coastal seas. Access to ICT should not replace indigenous/traditional ways of knowing. Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes have a right and cultural obligation to preserve and transmit

our ways of life, which includes our ways of knowing, to younger generations.

10. We declare that our cultural protocols, traditions, customary law and nature's law, especially concerning sacred and/or secret information and knowledge, must be respected. Arrangements for equitable benefit sharing must be based on our free, prior and informed consent.

11. We declare our desire to work collectively with others in the Information Society to create an ethical code and standards for best practices, which will be inclusive of our cultural values.

Education and Culture

12. We have the right to fully access and participate in decision-making processes (at all levels) concerning State Education (and the use of modern technologies). We also have the right to establish and control our own education systems based on our cultural methods, in our own languages and to plan and control our ICT application, as we see fit. We have the right to establish and control ICT training and application in indigenous educational systems, based on our own cultural methods of teaching and learning (of wisdom and cultural knowledge), in our own languages. We need to be key members and an integral part of the ICT capacity building for our communities.

13. We call on States, civil society and the private sector to partner with Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, to provide the needed resources for the development and implementation of "indigenous-to-indigenous" training projects, including "elders-and-youth" initiatives. This process will allow for the building of local capacity and expertise, and for programs that will be self sustaining.

14. We are entitled to culturally appropriate forms of distance learning as a complement to our methods of oral, personal, and intergenerational learning, that are an integral part of indigenous learning and the transmission of language and culture.

15. To ensure equitable access to the Global Information Society, we need to develop our own approaches in the utilization of ICT that can be adapted to our own patterns and protocols of communication.

16. We are entitled to education and capacity building methods that are rooted in our languages, cultures and traditional knowledge and that are fundamental in validating and affirming indigenous self-esteem and identity.

17. To promote mechanisms that enable Indigenous peoples to realize culturally adaptive applications to the ICT, best practices and technology need to be shared among various Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes. In order to do so, regional, national and international meetings and workshops have to be held to exchange information about

educational projects between indigenous individuals, groups and peoples.

Social and Economic Development

18. We have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising our right to development. All development measures including those relating to the implementation of the Information Society, must be controlled by the Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes concerned and carried out in equal partnership with them. Participation, negotiation, and free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes must be recognized as key elements of any development process.

19. We have the right to establish and control our own Information Communication and Technology (ICT), further developing our fundamental right to social and economic progress.

20. We have the right to participate in all manner of media and Information Communication Technology in mainstream ICT systems, nationally and internationally, in order to further strengthen our social and economic development strategies.

21. We have the right to appropriate capacity-building and support in developing a sound financial base, in order to keep up with technological developments and to build partnerships and networks.

Health

22. Technology can assist in meeting our dire need for primary health care. It is a vehicle to success in achieving the Millennium Development Goals relating to infant mortality and maternal health care. Technology can also support preventative health education and through Tel-med applications, provide services over vast geographic distances. Information technology should be used to promote and protect our traditional healing practices as well as to improve our access to mainstream health services. This potential can only be realized through collective efforts and equitable partnerships between Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, States, civil society and the private sector. This is considered a high priority.

Indigenous Cultural Property (includes Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Intellectual Property and the Media)

23. We are the owners and guardians of the Traditional Ancestral Knowledge of our cultures that have been transmitted through aeons by our oral traditions and ceremonial cultural practices. Existing intellectual property regimes that favour individual property rights

within the public domain are insufficient for the protection of indigenous intellectual property, which is the collective inheritance of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes and the legacy of future generations.

24. Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes have the right to both fully explore existing legal regimes and to develop *sui generis* legal systems, in order to safeguard traditional knowledge and to ensure protection of sacred and/or secret content. This right encompasses the wealth of traditional knowledge, including but not limited to ethno-botanical and genetic applications of traditional knowledge and traditional knowledge systems relating to medicinal and agricultural practices.

25. An indigenous media agency should be established, in cooperation with relevant United Nations organizations, to advise on legal protection and dissemination of information on indigenous political, cultural and economic situations; and stories, articles, videos, images, and products of indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, utilized for commercial purposes, through all forms of media, including print. Furthermore, relevant United Nations agencies, coordinated by the Permanent Forum of Indigenous Issues, should in cooperation with Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, elaborate a code of ethics regarding mainstream media researching or reporting on indigenous communities.

26. An internationally recognized indigenous products symbol should be encouraged and supported by States, in order to protect Indigenous peoples' intellectual property, for all ICT innovations belonging to Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, either individually or collectively.

27. The United Nations and Member States should promote mechanisms to ensure the effective protection of the collective knowledge, innovations, and practice of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes, linked to cultural and biological diversity.

Environment

28. The environment is a concern for us all. ICTs, including radio and video, provide excellent opportunities to showcase and educate about the natural beauty and diversity in which we live and can further our efforts to protect our lands and territories. Indigenous peoples are interested in producing multi-media education materials to assist in environmental education.

29. Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes share the responsibility of protecting the environment and to live in sustainable ways. ICTs should be used to promote sustainable forms of living for the benefit of our whole planet.

30. There should be no construction of ICT equipment on Indigenous territories without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples.

31. Environmental and cultural impact assessments on indigenous territories (lands, waterways, airspace, seas and oceans) must be carried out with the effective participation of the indigenous people/s before any ITC construction takes place.

32. ICT construction, whether on lands, waterways, airspace or in the oceans, should not proceed if there are concerns of negative environmental or cultural impacts.

Our Road to Tunis

33. To assure the meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes in Tunis in 2005 and in all preparatory conferences leading up to Tunis, the following recommendations need to be implemented:

    a. The Tunis Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society (GFIPIS) should be convened at the same site of the Tunis WSIS and should precede the WSIS by four (4) days. Registrations for the GFIPIS should include access to WSIS.

    b. Indigenous members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, in coordination with regional indigenous organizations, should be included during 2004 and 2005, in the planning process of the Tunis WSIS.

    c. Travel and per diem grants for lodging and support for Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes should be funded by States and private sector and provided within sufficient time to allow for proper planning and participation. Contributions should be sent to the Permanent Forum, which should ensure equal allocation among the indigenous regions taking into account gender, age and geographic equity.

    d. A broad based effort should be made to inform Indigenous peoples, nations and tribes about the dates, location and all relevant matters of the Tunis regional preparatory conferences in early 2004. Email announcements should also be distributed to all participants of the annual sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

<u>The Geneva Programme of Action</u>

Following are suggested courses of action to improve indigenous connectivity and equitable access to the new information society, on the Road to Tunis in 2005.

Economic and Social Development:

Indigenous peoples are interested in building partnerships with other indigenous peoples, States, the international system (including financial bodies), and the private sector to:

1. Ensure regular and sustained support for isolated indigenous communities, so they can maintain connectivity.
2. Build partnerships that are crucial for the establishment and sustainability of community connectivity, especially through funding/resourcing and training.
3. Promote cooperation among those who have access to new technologies and those who do not.
4. Ensure that Indigenous peoples who have access to new technologies can share their skills in such areas as advertising (for trade of indigenous communities) with those who do not.
5. Ensure ICTs are made available to communities on the basis of equity and are accessible to all.
6. Recognize the potential of the Internet for indigenous peoples to promote their own culture and history beyond economic profit.
7. Explore possibility for an indigenous satellite.
8. Assist Indigenous communities to explore and develop technologies themselves.
9. Explore e-commerce applications, which are very important for indigenous enterprises, in assisting them to develop needs analysis, business plans, and partnerships and to plan how to sustain their e-commerce projects.
10. Establish a worldwide indigenous association of indigenous organizations and businesses that have made the leap to connectivity, so that they can assist and make this technology available to indigenous communities who are not yet connected.
11. Raise awareness about the necessity of satellites to accomplish any form of communication in remote areas.
12. Promote radio/wireless as cheaper and better strategies for small communities.
13. Raise awareness of appropriate technologies for the local situation and such issues as the use of landlines, which maybe very expensive but may work better in large communities.
14. Fund capacity building in communication projects for indigenous communities, prioritizing access by youth, women and Elders.
15. Promote access to information by Indigenous women and indigenous youth and projects for capacity building.

16. Assist indigenous peoples to decide what ICTs they need and to assess what (formal) education is needed to have access to the knowledge of this new technology.

17. Develop computer software in indigenous languages that allow indigenous peoples to write in their own languages and to expand the use of computers in communities where indigenous languages are still in common use.

18. Properly resource indigenous peoples to allow their full participation in the information society.

Culture and Education

Indigenous peoples are interested in building partnerships with other Indigenous peoples, States, the international system (including financial bodies), and the private sector to:

19. Assist indigenous media in transmitting information (through print, audio and video) without excessive cost.

20. Adapt information technologies to the needs of indigenous communities.

21. Assist indigenous peoples to publicize their realities, recognizing that indigenous peoples should decide what should be published and what should not.

22. Develop and promote ICT projects that motivate all young learners (including indigenous youth) to understand other cultures and also to take part in the preservation of their own cultures.

23. Promote education and capacity building about information technology to ensure that indigenous peoples can utilize it effectively and appropriately.

24. Ensure that relevant United Nations bodies including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, OHCHR, WIPO, and UNESCO should work together on these issues to ensure that these issues (that are cross-cutting) are adequately addressed, recognizing that no single United Nations body has a mandate that allows for the comprehensive addressing of these issues. Such a partnership should encourage complimentary in addressing these issues.

25. Produce a secure database portal of Indigenous languages written and oral.

26. Create educational programs, where indigenous students can be trained to improve their technical skills.

27. Assist indigenous peoples to develop our own strategies of communications.

Environment

Indigenous peoples are interested in building partnerships with other indigenous peoples, States, the international system (including financial bodies), and the private sector to:

28. Ensure that ICTs, including satellite dishes, are not placed on indigenous lands or territories unless the free, prior and informed consent of the Indigenous peoples of those territories have been secured.

29. Establish procedures concerning the placement of ICT equipment on Indigenous peoples' lands that require widespread advertisement and notification, to ensure that the Indigenous Peoples belonging to those territories are fully informed and that their free and prior informed consent is obtained prior to any work commencing.

30. Ensure that indigenous peoples fully participate in environmental and cultural impact assessments on their indigenous territories (lands, waterways, airspace, seas and oceans) before any ITC construction takes place and that construction relating to ICTs whether on land or in the seas should not be undertaken where there is a negative environmental or cultural impact.

Health

Indigenous peoples are interested in building partnerships with other indigenous peoples, States, the international system, including financial bodies, and the private sector to:

31. Develop and implement indigenous specific health strategies at both community-level, regional, national and international levels.

32. Ensure that high-tech health care enhances and build on traditional ways of healing.

33. Allow indigenous peoples, through their indigenous evolutionary processes, to find their own uses for modern technologies, through capacity building and learning about its potential.

34. Work with indigenous communities, to assist them in identifying what improvements are needed firstly in their health care, before they can identify how technology can help in other areas.

35. Recognizing the under-resourcing of indigenous health in many countries ensures that moneys saved through high tech health delivery are redirected back into other indigenous health areas.

Human Rights

Indigenous peoples are interested in building partnerships with other indigenous peoples, States, the international system, including financial bodies, and the private sector to:

36. Acknowledge that this Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society - Programme of Action is built on the previous precedents of World Conferences, noting the unqualified use of the term indigenous peoples in the Johannesburg Declaration and the relevant recommendations made at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

37. Recognize that Indigenous peoples were identified as vulnerable groups by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and as peoples, suffer multiple forms of discrimination. In particular, indigenous women are at the intersectionality of race and gender discrimination. Therefore, particular attention should be given to the negative uses of modern technologies in promoting and proliferating racial hatred, discrimination, gender bias and stereotyping. As the World Conference recommended, special measures should be adopted to address discrimination against indigenous peoples.

38. Develop special measures to include marginalized segments of society including Indigenous peoples, and to ensure that they are not further marginalized by the information society.

39. Ensure that the right to freedom of speech is exercised within the boundaries of the right of non-discrimination.

40. Develop a code of conduct for the use of the information society, encouraging respect and promotion of cultural diversity.

Traditional Knowledge

Indigenous peoples are interested in building partnerships with other indigenous peoples, States, the international system, including financial bodies, and the private sector to:

41. Ensure that international organizations, including WIPO and other bodies, dealing with issues of relevance to Indigenous peoples and the information society, develop effective participation mechanisms to allow full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, including travel grants for regional representatives to participate in relevant meetings.

42. Assist Indigenous Peoples in exploring *sui generis* legislation to protect their collective intellectual property rights.

43. Raise awareness with UNESCO that it needs to consider more effective protection mechanisms for cultural heritage.

44. Promote the theme of Traditional Knowledge protection with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as the special theme for its 2005 session.

Geneva Programme of Action – Obstacles and challenges

The main obstacles and challenges facing indigenous peoples' equitable access and participation in the information society are identified as the following:

1. Remoteness - Indigenous communities in remote rural areas experience more difficulty with connectivity. The dispersals of some indigenous groups to various locations in large geographical areas prevent them from receiving ICT training and maintaining their cultural cohesion.

2. Poverty - The poverty of some indigenous communities even in developed countries reduces their access to the Internet.

3. Fear of change and cultural impact - Some indigenous people are sceptical and afraid about the possible impact of the Internet on their communities, cultures and traditional knowledge.

4. New marketing strategies required - The issue of marketing in e-commerce is a challenge for indigenous enterprises.

5. Training - Training is expensive and it is hard to find funding and matching funds for the provision of infrastructure.

6. The broader context of Cultural Erosion - Some indigenous peoples stated that is was hard to think about new technologies when they were the ongoing victims of cultural erosion.

7. Lack of computer software in indigenous languages - was a barrier to further use of computers in many communities.

8. Low levels of literacy - Indigenous participants identified low levels of literacy in indigenous languages, the national lingua-franca and in English (the computer language), as barriers to computer literacy and expanded use of computers in indigenous communities. This was largely the result of the oral nature of indigenous cultures and poor access and participation in formal education systems.

9. Unsustainable projects and reliance on outside funding mechanisms - Projects in some indigenous communities from South and Central America are not sustainable and they have to depend on external funds (international NGOs, governments and others).

10. Lack of suitable research in specific areas - There are no methodologies that adequately represent unique indigenous writing systems.

11. Technology as a challenge for indigenous cultures – Modern technologies do not always adapt to the realities of indigenous communities. There is a fear that in the information society, all must conform to one model. It is a challenge for Indigenous peoples to learn to use new technologies, while at the same time holding on to and restoring their traditional systems.

12. The cost of ICTs and the lack of resources - in indigenous communities constitute a major obstacle.

13. Keeping up with fast paced changes - Indigenous peoples in both developed and developing countries often have outdated hardware and software.

14. Gender equity and the information society - The voices of men are the only voices that people hear and the women's voices can be excluded. Attention to the full and effective participation of Indigenous women is vital.

15. Media control and usage - Media is disseminating wrong information about indigenous peoples, specially using indigenous women as sexual objects for advertisement. Indigenous peoples want more control over information that is distributed about them.

16. Lack of basic community infrastructure – It is difficult for indigenous peoples to consider new technologies and the future when they face, on a daily level, the lack of basic community infrastructure in areas such as water, sanitation and sealed roads.

Annex I

AGENDA

1. **Election of Officers.**
2. **Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.**
3. **Mandated areas:**
   - **(a) Economic and Social Development:**
     - (i) On-line Trading and E-Commerce;
   - **(b) Environment:**
     - (i) Traditional territory (land and waters) management and modern technologies for sustainable human development;
     - (ii) Environmental impacts of high technology;
     - (iii) Indigenous Peoples' Territorial based development and ICT.
   - **(c) Culture:**
     - (i) Indigenous culture online including histories/herstories;
     - (ii) Traditional indigenous styles and ways of communication and the implications for modern technologies;
     - (iii) Issues of traditional knowledge, indigenous intellectual property, and modern technologies.
   - **(d) Education:**
     - (i) E-Education and E-Learning;
     - (ii) Private Sector Panel.
   - **(e) Health:**
     - (i) E-Health (High-tech health on-line);
   - **(f) Human Rights:**
     - (i) E-Rights and E-Ethics;
     - (ii) Cyber-activism and use of modern technologies (i.e. reconciliation movements, political lobbying and public education);
     - (iii) Cyber-hatred, racism, discrimination and the internet.
4. **Cross-cutting issues:**
   - (a) Indigenous Stakeholder Partnership Portals;

(b) Obstacles to information communication technologies including access, participation and community infrastructure;

(c) Potentials of modern technologies and the information society;

(d) IT skills and capacity building;

(e) Peace-building and modern technologies;

(f) Indigenous gender perspectives and the information society;

(g) Indigenous generational perspectives and the information society;

(h) "The Road to Tunisia 2005" – a GFIPIS Programme of Action;

(i) WSIS/GFIPIS response to WSIS Declaration and Action Plan.

5. **Adoption of the declaration and programme of action.**

6. **Closure of meeting.**

Annex II

PROGRAMME OF WORK
featuring meetings held and the participants who served as panellists, chairpersons or rapporteurs

Date/time		*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
Monday, **8 December 2003** Morning (10.00 a.m.-1 p.m.)			
		Plenary Opening of the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society	H.E. Mr. Robert Hensler, Chancellor of State for the Canton of Geneva and H.E. Mr. Laurent Walpen, Special Assistant; H.E. Mr. Christian Ferrazino, Mayor of the City of Geneva; Mr. Ole Henrik Magga, Chairperson of UNPFII; Mr. Alain Clerc, Executive Director Division for Civil Society Secretariat of the WSIS Ms. (Gina) Maliea Sui Lin Nobrega, Indigenous Youth Representative, Hawaii.
	Item 1	Election of officers.	Mr. Ole-Henrik Magga
	Item 2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	Mr. Ole-Henrik Magga
	Item 3	Opening Plenary continues with the High-level panel, followed by an interactive discussion. The mandate of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues provides the global structure of the meeting:	Mr. Nilo Cayuquero, Co-Director, Abya Yala Nexus; Ms. Ann-Kristin Hakansson, Indigenous Media Network; Mr. Ian MacArthur, National

Date/time		*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
		(a) Economic and Social Development; (b) Environment; (c) Culture; (d) Education; (e) Health and (f) Human Rights and (g) Cross-cutting Issues; and the Information Society.	**Aboriginal Canadian Portal; Ms. Anna Molley, Donna Cona - Aboriginal private company.**
Afternoon (3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.)	Item 3	2 Workshops on 3 (a) and 3(b):	
		(a) Economic and Social Development: (i) On-line Trading and E-Commerce;	**Grand Chief Joseph Norton, Kahanwake Mohauk Council; Ms. Veronica Vinge, Council for the Advancement of National Development; Ms. France Beauvais, National Aboriginal Canadian Portal; Chairperson: Mr. Tony Belcourt, Mettis National Council; Rapporteur: Ms. Judy Sparrow, USA Department of Commerce.**
		(b) Environment: (i) Traditional territory (land and waters) management and modern technologies for sustainable human development; (ii) Environmental impacts of high technology	**Mr. David Laughing Horse Robinson, California State University, Bakersfield; Mr. Shawn Burns, ICT Development Group; Mr. Luis Lawrence, Hamatla Treaty Society; Chairpersons: Mr. Ruben Ortiz, Consejo Maya; Ms. (Gina) Maliea Sui Lin Nobrega, University of Hawaii; Rapporteur: Mr. Cham Toik, Mon Unity League.**
		(c) Indigenous Peoples, Territorial based development and ICT: Challenges and Opportunities	**Ms. Shirley Adamson, Ms. Sabet Biscaye, Mr. Roy Dahl, Mr. Ole-Isak Mienna, Circle of Artic Circumpolar**

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
		Indigenous Communications; Grand Chief Joseph Norton, Kahanwake Mohawk Council; Chairperson: Mr. Ole-Henrik Magga, UNPFII; Rapporteur: Mr. John Scott UNSPFII.
Tuesday, 9 December 2003 **Morning** **(10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)**		
	Item 3	3 Workshops on 3(c)(i) and 3(c)(i) and 3(c)(iii) – These workshops may be combined and held in the Plenary Room:
		(c) Culture:
		(i) Indigenous culture on-line including histories/herstories; or
		Mr. Ted Enlow, Cherokee Nation; Mr. Teanau Tuiono, CWA New Media; Mr. Ted Bairstow – Chief; Mr. William Cramners and Mr. Simon Robinson, First Peoples' Cultural Foundation; Mr. Michael Cochran, SIL International; Chairperson: Ms. Carol Geddes, Member of Teslin Tlingit Council; Rapporteur: Ms. Anne-Marie Millner, Canadian Culture On-line.
		(ii) Traditional indigenous styles and ways of communication and the implications for modern technologies; or
		Mr. Naja Paulsen, Circle Of Artic Circumpolar Indigenous Communications; Mr. Nils Johan Hetta, Sami Broadcasting; Mr. Juan Carlos Schutze, Regional Support Programme for Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon Basin; Mr. Marcos Terena, Comité

Date/time		*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
			Intertribal "Memoria y Ciencia"; Chairpersons: Ms. Stella Tamang and Mr. Nolasco Mamani; Rapporteur: Ms. Martha Llanos.
		(iii) Issues of traditional knowledge, indigenous intellectual property and modern technologies	Mr. Antony Taubman, Head, Traditional Knowledge (Global IP Issues) Division WIPO; Ms. Violet Ford, Inuit Circumpolar Conference; Ms. Herminia Minnie Degawan, indigenous representative from the Philippines; Mr. Marcos Terena, Comité Intertribal "Memoria y Ciencia", Brasil; Chairperson: Ms. Irene Fredericks, Praire land Communication System Inc.; Rapporteur: Mr. John Scott, UNSPFII.
Afternoon **(3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.)**			
	Item 3	3 Workshops on 3(d)(i) and (ii); 3(e)(i); **(d) Education**: (i) E-Education and E-Learning	Mr. Christine Dubois - Ted Cadwallader, Human Resource Development Canada; Ms. Marleny Tzicap, Enlace Quiche ; Ms. Gina Maliea Sui Lin – Lilian Sepe Segal – Ms. Rosemarie K. O'Brien, University of Hawaii; Mr. Gunnar Mandt and Mr. Sverre O. Johansen, Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research; Mr. Teanau Tuiono, CWA New Media, New Zealand;

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
		Mr. Max Lenoy, Indigenous Educator, Australia; Chairperson: Mr. Tonny Belcourt, Mettis Nation; Rapporteurs: Ms. Karen Flick, and Mr. Pascal Richard, IWGIA.
	(ii) Private Sector Panel	Mr. Humbert M. Janssen, Telesat, Canada; Mr. Mark German, Donna Conna, Canada; Mr. Pedro Tinoco, Fundación Cisneros, Venezuela; Mr. Leonid Gonin, Association Udmurt Kenesh, Russia.
	(e) Health:	Mr. Heith Conn and Mr. Ernie Dal Grande, Health Canada;
	(i) E-Health (high-tech health)	Mr. Steven Fox-Radulovich, United Chief and Councils of Manitoulin M'Chigeeng First Nation; Chairperson: Ms. Judy Whiteduck; Rapporteur: Mr. John Scott, UNSPFII.
Wednesday, 10 December 2003	**INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY**	
Morning (10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)	**Plenary Room**	
Item 3	1 combined Workshop on 3 (f) will be held in the Plenary Room.	
	(f) Human Rights	Ms. Gloria Nwabuogu, Anti-Discrimination Unit – OHCHR;
	(i) E-Rights and E-Ethics;	Mr. Tony Belcourt, Metis National Council;

Date/time		*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
		(ii) Cyber-activism and the use of modern technologies (i.e. reconciliation movements, political lobbying and public education on indigenous issues); (iii) Cyber-hatred, racism, discrimination and the internet.	Ms. Francesca Thornberry and Mr. Finn Andersen, ILO; Mr. Jody Thompson and Mr. John Grant Thomas, Congress of Aboriginal People; Mr. David Laughing Horse Robinson, California State University; Mr. Rubén Ortiz, Consejo Maya; Chairperson and Rapporteur: Mr. John Scott, UNSPFII.
		2 Additional Workshops 4 (h) "The Road to Tunisia 2005" – GFIPID Programme of Action; 4 (i) WSIS/GFIPIS response to WSIS Declaration and Action Plan.	Mr. Donald Abelson, Federal Communications Commission; Mr. John Sinclair, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; Mr. Peter Huta, Community Connectivity Access & International Branch National Office for the Information Economy, Australia.
Wednesday, 10 December 2003 Afternoon (3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.)	Item 4	2 workshops on 4 (a) and 4 (b, c, d, e, f and g):	
		4. Cross-cutting issues **(a) Indigenous Stakeholder partnership portals** (b) Obstacles to information communication technologies including access, participation and community infrastructure;	Mr. Todd Enlow, Cherokee Nation; Ms. Mary Carman, Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Industry Canada; Spectrum Information Technologies and Telecomunications; Ms. Karen Flick, Aboriginal Australian, Indigenous Telecomunication Section, DCITA, Australia;

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
		Mr. Cham Toik, Mon Unity League; Mr. Pedro Tinoco, Fundación Cisneros, Venezuela; Ms. Sue Connolly, Aboriginal Australian, Cape York Digital Network; Ms. Zinaida Kalte and Ms. Marina Zarubalova, indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation; Chairperson and Rapporteur: Ms. Elissavet Stamatopoulou, UNSPFII.
	(c) Potentials of modern technologies and the information society; (d) IT skills and capacity building; (e) Peace-building and modern technologies; (f) Indigenous gender perspectives and the information society; (g) Indigenous generational perspectives and the information society.	Mr. Ian MacArthur, Aboriginal Canada Portal; Mr. Peter Huta, Director of Australia National Office of the Information Economy; Ms. Judy Sparrow, US Department of Commerce and the Cherokee Nation; Mr. Luis Barnola, Institute for Connectivity in the Americas (Canada); Mr. Jorge Uquillas, The Global Fund for Indigenous Peoples, World Bank; Ms. Anne Deruyttere and Mr. Maximilian Spiess, Inter-American Development Bank; Chairperson and Rapporteur: Mr. John Scott, UNSPFII. Ms. Maria Eugenia Choque, Centro de estudios Disciplinarios Aymaras ; Ms. Stella Tamang, Asian Indigenous Women Fund; Mr. John Sinclair, Indian and Norther Affairs. Canada. Ms. Delia Quilumbaqui, Proyecto de Desarrollo para

Date/time		*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
			los Pueblos Indigenas y Negros del Ecuador ; Chairperson: Ms. Minnie Degawan, Indigenous representative, Philippines; Rapporteur: Mr. Brian Phillips, Canadian International Development Agency.
Thursday, 11 December 2003 Morning (10.00 a.m.- 1.00 p.m.)		**Plenary**	
	Item 3		Mr. José Carlos Morales and Ms. Ivy Nomolungelo Goduka, Co-Conveners of the GFIPIS Drafting Committee Chairperson: Mr. Ole-Henrik Magga, UNPFII; Vice-Chairpersons: Mr. Parshuram Tamang and Mr. Antonio Jacanamijoy, UNPFII.
	Item 5	Adoption of the Outcomes Document/s.	Mr. Ole Henrik Magga.
	Item 6	Closure of Meeting.	Mr. Ole Henrik Magga.
Afternoon (2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.) **Please note 2.00 p.m. start.**		**EXHIBITION AFTERNOON AT PALEXPO CENTRE** Displays and exhibitions of traditional and contemporary forms of indigenous communication/s, mass media, the information society and high technologies. Indigenous Cultural Event Presentation of the outcomes documents of the Global Forum	Cultural performers included; Mr. Roberto Borrerro, Mr. Cameron McCathy, Mr. Anotoli Gogolev and the Offical Samoan Dance Group.

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Presenters, Chairpersons, and Rapporteurs*
Friday, 12 December 2003	**Presentations to World Summit for the Information Society**	
Morning (10 a.m.-1 p.m.)	1.00 p.m. Presentation to the WSIS of GFIPIS Outcomes.	Ms. Mililani Trask, Vice-Chairperson of the UNPFII
Afternoon (3.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.)	Close of World Summit on the Information Society and presentation of the GFIPIS Declaration and Programme of Action.	Mr. Ole Henrik Magga Chairperson of the UNPFII

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

The following documents were prepared for the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society:

1. Provisional Agenda of the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society;
2. Provisional Programme of Work for the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society;
3. Independent Expert Paper by Permanent Forum Member, Mr. Marcos Matias Alonzo, "Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society";
4. General Information for Participants Note, prepared by the Aboriginal Canada Portal.

Annex IV

ATTENDANCE

Members of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: Antonio Jacanamijoy, Ayitegan Kouevi, Willie Littlechild, Wayne Lord, Ole Henrik Magga, Parshuram Tamang, Mililani Trask.

Indigenous peoples' organizations and nations: Aboriginal People's Television Network, Abya Yala Nexus, Academia de Lenguas Mayas de Guatemala y Proyecto Enlace Quiche, Altai (Tuba), American Indian Law Alliance, Asian Indigenous and Global Peoples Network, Asociación de Cabildos Indigenas del Norte del Cauca, Assembly of First Nations, Association Socioculturelle Tagazt, Djanet, Association Udmurt Kenesh, Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar, Bellemondo Media, Buffalo River Dene Nation, Confederación de Pueblos Indigenas de Bolivia (CIDOB), Center on Disability Studies –University of Hawaii, Central American Indigenous Council (CICA), Centro de Estudios Disciplinarios Aymaras (CEMA), Cherokee Nation, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority, COIN Intenet Academy, Comité Intertribal Memoria y Ciencia, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, Consejo de Organizaciones Mayas de Guatemala, Consejo Indio de Sud America (CISA), Coordinadora Permanente de Pueblos Indigenas del Perú (COPPIP), Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, Cowichang Valley, Cultural Association Aang Stered, CWA New Media, Cybergarden Communications, Enlace Quiche, Escuela Radiofónicas Populares del Ecuador, Federation of Saskatchewan, Finish Provincial State, First Nation School Net, First Nations Statistics Secretariat c/o Union of Ontario Indians, First People' Cultural Foundation, Fundación Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Hamatla Treaty Society, Indigenous Media Network, Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition, Indigenous representative of the Khabarovsk Region (Russian Federation), Indigenous representative of the Shor people (Russian Federation), Inuit Circumpolar Conference (Canada); Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Kahanwake Mohawk Council, Kao Wao News Group, Kaska Dena Council, Keewatin Tribal Council, Mboscuda, Metis National Council, Mon Unity League, Native Communication Society, National Indigenous Time, Native Women's Association of Canada, Nor Alinea, Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, Papua New Guinea Eco-Forestry Forum, Praire Land Communication System Inc., Programme d'Integration et de Développement du people Pygmee au Kivu, Proyecto de Desarrollo para los Pueblos Indigenas y Negros del Ecuador (PRODEPINE), Saami Council, South Asia Indigenous Women Fund, Squamish Nation Next Exit Pictures Ltd., Tebtebba Foundation, Teslin Tlingit Council, Tetuwan Oyate Teton Sioux Nation Treaty Council, The National Broadcasting Company Sakha, United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin, Vepsy.

States:

Australia, Canada, Ecuador, Norway, Switzerland and the United States of America. The following government departments of various Member States participated in the Global Forum: Canadian Cultural Online; Canadian Heritage; Canadian International Development Agency; Community Connectivity Access & International Branch National Office for the Information Economy; Consumer and Governmental Bureau; Department of External Affairs and International Trade; Federal Communications Commission; Human Resources Development Canada; Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; Indigenous Telecommunications Section, Department of Communication - IT & the Arts Government of Australia; Industry Canada; Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research (NORAD); and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Private sector: Cape York Digital Network, Donna Cona, ICT Development Group, Jatun Pacha Productiones, Keewaytinook Okimakanak's Computer Services (Knet), Nigerian Television, Norther Native Broadcasting UK, Norwegian Broadcasting, Saami Radio, SIL International, TeKnowave Inc., Telesat Canada.

United Nations system entities and other intergovernmental organizations:

Inter-American Development Bank, International Labour Office, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, World Bank, World Intellectual Property Organization, and the World Health Organization.

Other non-governmental organizations and academic institutions:

Agenda Nacional de Conectividad del Ecuador, American Museum of Natural History (USA), Apoyo a los Pueblos Indigenas de la Amazonia (Bolivia), Arctic Institute of North America, California State University, Cultural Survival, CPDA, First Nations Statistics (Canada), FRAPNA, Fundación Cisneros (Colombia), Fundación para el Desarrollo de las Comunicaciones y la Protección Ambiental Colombia Multicolor, Greenlandic School of Journalism, Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information (DOCIP), Indigenous Dialogues Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services (Canada), Institute for Connectivity in the Americas (ICA), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), International Working Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), James Cook University (Australia), Programme Regional de Health (Canada), Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Norway), and TARA.

Annex V

Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America to the World Summit on the Information Society

Geneva, December 11, 2003

(Indigenous Caucus of South and Central America and México)

We, the representatives of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America have come to Geneva to attend the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society and the World Summit on the Information Society.

First, we would like to thank the Canton of Geneva and the Swiss government for the hospitality and support extended to our delegates.

Having gathered the feelings and aspirations of Indigenous people from our region, we would like to express the following:

We, Indigenous Peoples reaffirm our own forms and instruments of traditional communication as valid for a human communication that enriches social life, with respect and balance between humans and Mother Nature.

Communication is a daily and millennial practice of Indigenous Peoples that is fundamental for harmonious coexistence between humans and nature. For the Indigenous people, communication is integral as part of a cosmovision in which all of the elements of life and nature are permanently related and influence each other. Therefore, communication has as its foundation an ethic and a spirituality in which content, feelings and values are essential.

We consider that, although there has been a dialogue and a predisposition above all from the developing countries, the summit, and in general the Declaration of Principles and the Action Plan of the World Summit on the Information Society, has not included the fundamental proposals of the Indigenous Peoples that were made in previous preparatory meetings. Nor do these include the aspirations of the Indigenous Peoples expressed in various events on the right to develop our own forms and means of community communication.

We are concerned that the summit, in its first stage, does not consider the rights of Indigenous Peoples, that the vision of development adopted in the Summit emphasizes the technological means and instruments above human needs and perspectives; we are concerned that the development motor will be access to information technologies rather than access to equity, peace with social justice, and the exercise of rights and human liberties.

We would warn that a vision of a future society whose construction logic is based on market competition for the use and access to new information technologies would carry with it a serious risk of devaluing the sense of human communication.

The paradigm of an Information Society based principally on universal access to information technologies, means ignoring the structural inequalities whose causes are not of the technological or infrastructure type but rather a response to models of excluding domination based on the private interests of transnational corporations that concentrate a great deal of technological power and attempt to generalize this through the market system as the only means of human development.

As Indigenous Peoples, we want to call the attention of the government representatives that hold in their hands the final approval of the summit documents that, without significant participation of the world's indigenous peoples in the orientation and execution of the WSIS agreements, the discrimination and negation of our ancestral right will continue, and this will not only widen the digital divide, but will also worsen the current conditions and social, economic and cultural exclusion to the detriment of cultural identity and diversity of the people.

As Indigenous Peoples, forming part of the civil society, we emphatically express our concern that the United Nations really include a plural and humanistic vision of development that respects cultural diversity and that does not contribute – directly or indirectly – to consolidating a market vision that responds only to the private interests of powerful information corporations and that do not necessarily coincide with the interests of the people in democracy, sustainable development, social justice and peace.

Based on the above, we whole-heartedly call upon the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society to contemplate the following:

1. To strengthen the **cultural and linguistic diversity** of the Indigenous peoples of the world and as a consequence to strengthen their rights to communication, with content, values and means as they themselves determine adequate.

2. To promote the recognition and exercise of the **fundamental liberties and rights of the Indigenous peoples** as an essential condition for an inclusive society that provides more justice and solidarity.

3. To base itself on the Human Rights recognized in the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights and other international instruments.

4. To promote mechanisms that assure the effective protection of the collective **knowledge, innovations and practices**, of the Indigenous peoples that are connected to cultural and biological diversity.

5. To create conditions in which Indigenous Peoples have access to the financial resources that allow information technologies to be appropriately developed under their own conditions without affecting cultural integrity.

6. To fully support the document created by the Civil Society, of which we are a part, and which should be taken into consideration and published

together with the official resolutions, since it includes our demands and plans for constructing a more democratic and unified information society.

7. And as we head toward Tunis, to promote and facilitate a genuine dialogue in which the United Nations, governments, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and the private sector, reach a consensus for the construction of a true information society.

8. Lastly, we would like to reaffirm our will to continue the dialogue with all of the government and United Nations representatives and all of the actors involved, so that between now and the meeting in Tunis we can reach our goal of constructing an information society that helps to continue and to harmonize life on our Mother Earth.